



Nuckolls County Board Minutes



AUGUST 19, 2013 PROCEEDINGS OF THE NUCKOLLS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Nuckolls County Board of Commissioners met Monday, August 19, 2013 in the Board Meeting Room at the Courthouse, Nelson, Nebraska, per recess of August 12, 2013. Combs, Brown present for the meeting and Corman is absent, with approval from other board members. The agenda of said meeting was remitted to board members in advance of the meeting and is posted in the County Clerk's office and on the County Website. Combs announced the 'Open Meetings Act Law' as posted in the Commissioners Board Meeting Room and handouts are available.

The board reconvened at 8:59 a.m. Chairman Combs approved the Agenda as submitted and the August 12, 2013 minutes as submitted. Chuck Mittan, News reporter for the Superior Express is present for the meeting.

Gary Warren, Highway Superintendent and Cindy Buescher, Executive Secretary met with the Board to update them on the current activities of the County Road Department. Buescher noted the Tire Recycling Collection is Friday and road employee Kelly Frey will be assisting the Board on Friday. Warren noted that all the motorgrader operators are out maintaining the county roads this week and 2 gravel trucks are out hauling gravel. They are starting on the maintenance project replacing a damaged pipe south of the Clay/Nuckolls County line south of the Edgar spur with 2-48" pipes. Last week they worked on spraying weeds and trees around bridges and culverts. They also worked on maintenance on equipment in the shop last week. This week they will finish the safety signs at the county shops required by Nirma. Drudik Electric has buried electrical line at Bostwick and Oak Shops with lock-out/tag-out panels. Warren noted he had received a letter from Speece-Lewis that they will be doing our Fracture Critical Bridge Inspections. Nuckolls County only has two. They are the Lincoln Park Bridge in Superior and a bridge NW of Bostwick. Twenty percent of these costs are paid from the old Soft-Match Funds they County did not get used before the program was shut down. Warren noted they are still getting requests to install driveway tubes.

The Board received a request for a communications facility located at 2940 Road 4100, Edgar NE from Windstream Nebraska, Inc. Warren had some concerns regarding Windstream's request. Windstream has not been working on several of the County projects that he has been requesting for quite a while. Warren is requesting the Board to table their decision until next week so he can contact them and hopefully get his projects done. Brown requested to table the agenda item until next week. The Chairman tabled this item until next week.

A request for an Easement for Electrical Line was submitted by Jim Watts to run an electrical line under a county road and in the county road ditch located between Sections 4 & 5, T3N-R8W (Blaine Precinct). A motion was made by Brown to approve the Electrical Line Easement for Jim Watts and Combs seconded the motion. Combs voted aye, Brown voted aye. Corman absent. Motion carried with a majority vote.

Clerk Kassebaum asked the Board if they were still interested in doing a Health Screening/Blood draw for the Nuckolls County Employees and Spouses. Both Combs and Brown were in favor. Kassebaum informed the Board that Boyd's Company is going to be removing the vending machine from the Courthouse as we do not have enough sales and product is getting stale.

A motion was made by Brown to approve the Sheriff's Department's purchase of a 2013 Ford "F" F150, 4x4 Extended Cab Pickup for the amount of \$28,398.00 on August 9, 2013 and Combs seconded the motion. Combs voted aye, Brown voted aye. Corman absent. Motion carried.



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The Board approved the following claims from the recent Jury Trial held on August 8, 2013.

GENERAL FUND

Biltoft, Leslie	juror fees	\$	40.55
Blevins, Dianne	juror fees	\$	49.43
Boeka, Donna	mileage and bailiff	\$	125.90
Bridwell, Christopher	juror fees	\$	49.43
Cox, Gerald	juror fees	\$	58.31
Eggers, Michael	juror fees	\$	50.54
Epley, Edd	juror fees	\$	43.88
Gerard II, Anthony	juror fees	\$	36.11
Grassmann, Jessica	juror fees	\$	49.43
Harrington, Michelle	juror fees	\$	42.77
Hiatt, Douglas	juror fees	\$	49.43
Himmelberg, Todd	juror fees	\$	52.76
Jacobitz, Markele	juror fees	\$	39.44
Jensen, Jacqueline	juror fees	\$	36.11
Johnson, Paige L	juror fees	\$	49.43
Kathman, Dale	juror fees	\$	50.54
Kohmetscher, Tamara	juror fees	\$	51.65
McCutcheon, Johnny	juror fees	\$	62.75
McKinney Jr, Larry	juror fees	\$	49.43
Menke, Ronald	juror fees	\$	48.32
Nelson Food Center	supplies for jury trial	\$	23.96
Rodehorst, Sharon	juror fees	\$	36.11
Sauce, Elizabeth	juror fees	\$	49.43
Schiermeyer, Curtis	juror fees	\$	37.22
Schultz, Charlene	juror fees	\$	36.11
Scott, Troy	juror fees	\$	49.43
Sumpter, James	juror fees	\$	49.43
Sweet, Vicki	juror fees	\$	49.43
Thayer, Ronald	juror fees	\$	49.43
Thompson, Robert	juror fees	\$	51.65
Tietjen Calvin	juror fees	\$	49.43
Tucker's	meals for jury members	\$	46.35

The following salary claims were approved:

General Fund Salaries:	\$59,361.22
Road Fund Salaries:	\$41,349.94
Civil Defense Fund Salary:	\$ 2,330.00
Emergency 911 Fund Salary;	\$ 400.00

Carrie Miller, Secretary for the Nuckolls County Safety Committee met with the Board to submit the June 20, 2013 minutes of the Safety Committee and to give an update on current issues. The Board discussed having the Safety Committee handbook updated. Miller noted changes have been made to the handbook recently. They had done an inspection of the fire extinguishers at the Courthouse and found 2 that needed re-charged. Miller noted the Safety Committee was concerned with this and were interested in finding other options for their maintenance. Miller also discussed other issues with spare keys for the interior lift and the copier for the courts. Miller asked the Board for any concerns they would like brought up to the committee. None noted. **A motion**



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was made by Brown to accept the Safety Committee report as submitted and Combs seconded the motion. Combs voted aye, Brown voted aye. Corman absent. Motion carried.

Terry Madson met with the Board in regard to his concerns with water conservation and how the Little Blue Natural Resource District is approving to many irrigation wells that are depleting our rivers, streams and under ground water sources. Madson submitted a draft copy of a letter of support he wrote for Nuckolls County to the Little Blue NRD. Tim Schmidt, County Attorney is also present for this discussion. Schmidt noted the Board can sign the letter however he sees this as a 'Political Public Relations Issue' and it is not under the Boards authority for any decision or action. A previous letter by Madson was sent to the Little Blue NRD and Madson noted some of the NRD Board Members agree something needs to be done about this issue. Combs noted it is a very important issue however he does not want to be involved with water issues. It was noted that several other individuals in the district are also very concerned and have voiced their concerns. Brown would like to have 'tax payers' removed from the letter as it is too inclusive. If the Board agrees to sign this letter of support it would need to be on Commissioners Letterhead and in the proper format. Discussion was held as to which Board meeting to address this issue again. It was determined to be tabled until September 3, 2013.

The Budget Making Authority of Vicki Ensign and Royce Gonzales met with the Board to discuss any final changes for the Nuckolls County 2013/2014 Budget. The 2013/2014 Budget Message and the Estimated County Budget for the Board was submitted for review. It was determined to not do a \$150,000.00 Interfund Transfer from Inheritance Tax Fund as it would make the levy go down to much. If they drop the transfer it would make the levy go to 0.264104. Brown and Combs agreed. Ensign noted that Kotinek had requested to have \$3,000.00 transferred from the Veteran's Aid Fund to the County General Fund with a line item only. This fund has not been used in years. Kassebaum also noted that the Budget Message needs to show that a petty cash fund of \$90,000.00 is at Mid-American Benefits to pay medical, dental and prescription claims. An Interfund Transfer from Inheritance Tax fund which is currently budgeted for Noxious Weed for \$3,758.11 and needs to be changed to \$8,758.11 and the GIS Fund at \$15,000.00. The current reserves are County General at \$300,000.00; County Road \$300,000.00; Medical Relief \$25,000.00 and Noxious Weed \$25,000.00. Discussion was putting more dollars into the reserves and to transfer \$50,000.00 into the General Fund which designates it to the Road Fund. With the changes it would estimate the levy at 0.250000 with a request of \$2,195,261.84 in tax dollars. The Public Hearing for the 2013/2014 Nuckolls County Budget is set for August 26, 2013 at 11:30 a.m.

There being no further business the meeting was recessed at 11:24 a.m. until Monday, August 26, 2013.

Michael D. Combs, Chairman

By: Jackie L. Kassebaum, County Clerk